METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CACHING HTTP DATA TRANSPORTED WITH SOCKS DATA IN IP DATAGRAMS

Abstract

The present invention is directed to computer networks and more particularly to a system and method in a network device for caching Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) data transported in an Internet Protocol (IP) Datagram sent on a socks connection established over a Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) connection between a source port on a source device and a destination port on a destination device. The method comprises the steps of:

- identifying the source device, the destination device, the port on the source device, the port on the destination device of an incoming IP Datagram.

- determining whether the incoming IP datagram is originated by a socks client or by a socks server :

   If the incoming IP Datagram is originated by a socks client:

- terminating the TCP connection and the socks connection ;

- identifying the socks connection in a table;

- identifying the application level protocol associated with the socks connection referring to this table, this table comprising for each socks connection an application level protocol;

- determining whether said application level protocol is HTTP or not:

If said application level protocol is HTTP:

- determining whether HTTP data requested by the incoming IP Datagram is in a local cache within the network device or not:

If HTTP data requested by the incoming IP Datagram is in a local cache:

- building an outgoing IP Datagram comprising requested HTTP data retrieved from the local cache;

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- sending said outgoing IP Datagram to the socks client originator of the incoming IP Datagram.